1860 Dec. 8

My dear Garrison

I accept your article in the Liberator as an answer to my letter & thank you for it. It is all dark. The most unpracticing duty an abolitionist has to perform is that of firmly withstanding well-intentioned, or apparently well-intentioned friends of the cause. Let separate things be kept separate & distinctions observed where there is a difference. In a race like ours we don't want any extra-weight to carry.

Next week, here in Phila we go into the conflict, against the ~~[illegible]~~ mourning of friends (so confident) & foes. We are

29.1

asked to give up the Faith
— and we are warned to give
it up. We decline. We will
take the risk and stand on
our own doctrines & the responsibility
of our distinct affiliations;
but we don't want, nor if
we can help it will we
allow ourselves to be held
to account for the crude
& untenable vagaries of
others who are not of us
— either in faith or doc-
trine.

When it was said here
as it has been over & over
that "Sanism was at that
convention", I said he went
there, not as one of its Ex-
ponents, but to express his
own views on the subject
he was concerned — views
which in all probability he
knew

would ~~[illegible]~~ be al-ma-
nac with the time of the
Lecture instrumental in getting
up the meeting. Your
few words in the Lebanon
show that I was right.

These are interesting
times & full of promise.
I have no doubt the Ex-
periment will be tried
of suppressing abolitionists
& abolitionists by brute
force, but it is too late!
Thank God it is too late!
The work is done & the
fruit has gone forth!
Amen & amen!

Yours truly

J. W. McClure

Lear Pa